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THE OHIO COLONY BROODER HOUSE

By the

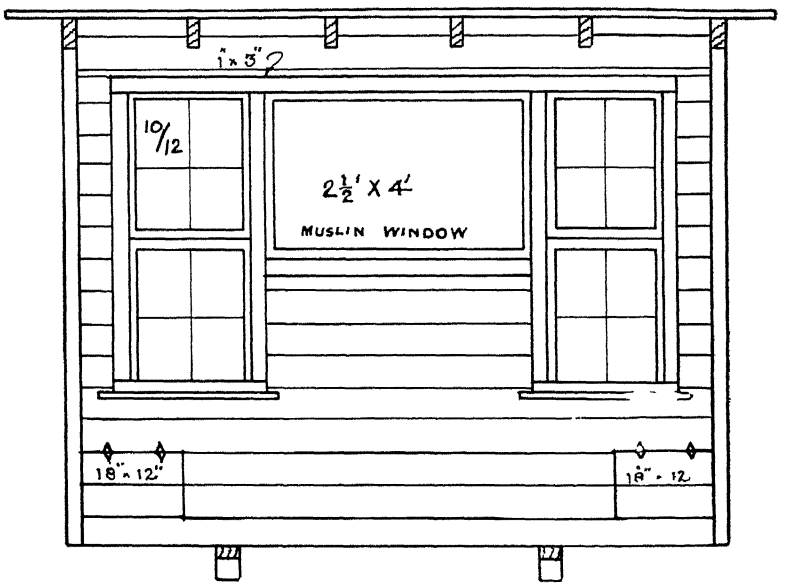
DEPARTMENT OF POULTRY HUSBANDRY
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, COLUMBUS, OHIO, COOPERATING WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FREE—Cooperative Agricultural Extension Work—Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914

The plans shown in this Bulletin are from drawings made by the Department of Agricultural Engineering

The Ohio Colony Brooder House

The Ohio colony brooder house has been designed by the Department of Poultry Husbandry to meet the demand for a portable house large enough to brood 500 chicks at one time; small enough to be moved easily, and cheap enough to be within the means of any poultryman. The house shown is 10 feet wide, 12 feet long, and 7 feet high in the front, sloping to 5 feet in the rear, inside measurements.



END ELEVATION

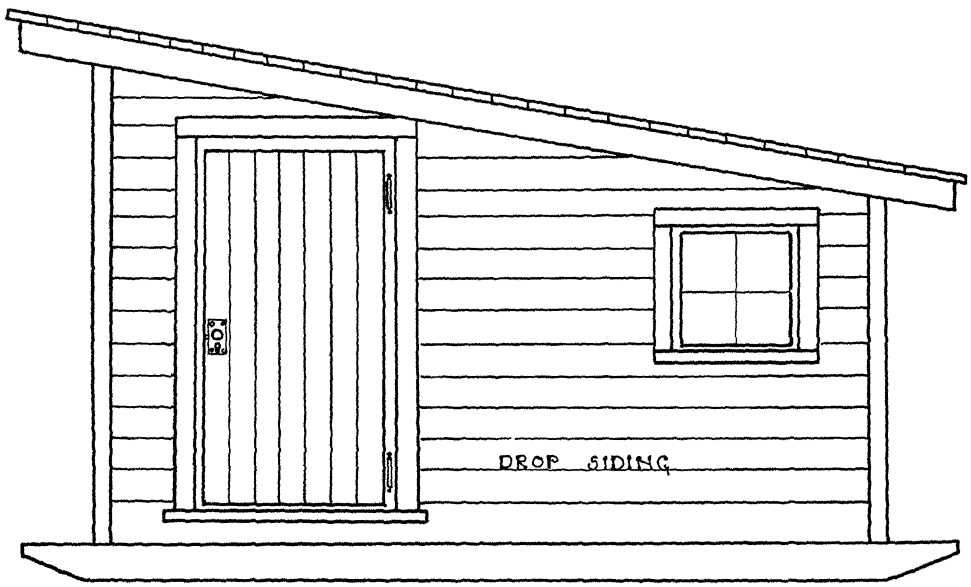
The stove brooder has proven its superiority over the hen as a means of brooding large numbers of chicks with a minimum of labor, cost, and mortality. The success of a brooder stove depends to a large extent upon the kind of a house in which it is located. The house should be large enough to permit of good ventilation, and to allow the chicks room to get away from the brooder stove and into cool air.

The success of all poultrymen depends upon raising strong, vigorous pullets. This can best be accomplished by moving the chicks each year to fresh ground where there is an abundance of

green grass, bugs, and shade. This cannot be done unless the brooder house is portable. Experienced poultrymen realize that intestinal parasites and diseases can be kept out of the flock at a less expense by moving the house than by doctoring the sick birds. The house should be placed to face the south, if possible.

BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS

Foundation.—The house is built on two 4- by 6-inch runners or skids, 14 feet in length, set 30 inches under the edge of the house to prevent the floor from sagging. Floor joists of 2- by 4-inch



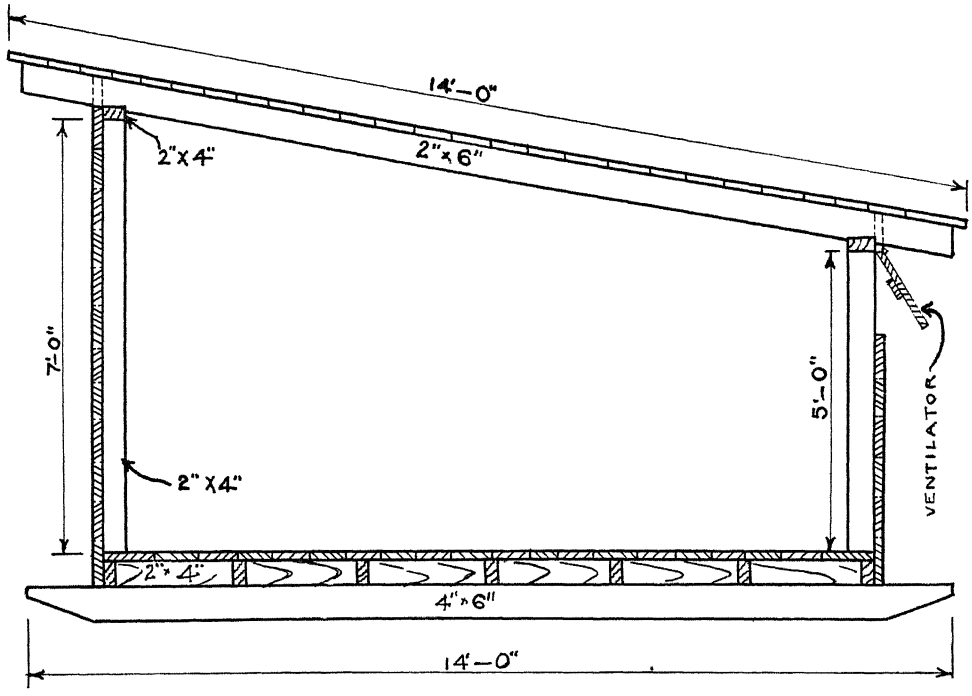
SIDE ELEVATION

material are nailed to these, 24 inches from center to center. Pieces of 2- by 4-inch material, 22 inches long, are fastened between the joists (on top of the runners) to make a rigid framework for the house (see Floor Plan, page 6; also floor detail in Frame Section, page 5). The skids should be set on blocks to prevent them from rotting out.

Walls.—The walls are of 1- by 6-inch drop siding. A good grade of siding should be used, and all knot holes or broken tongues and grooves sawed out. Scantling, 2 by 4 inches, is used for studs.

Floor.—A board floor should be used. First grade flooring of 1- by 6-inch boards, free from knots, will make a tight floor. A double floor is not necessary, and adds to the weight of the house as well as to the cost. Joists of 2- by 4-inch material are used (see Frame Section, page 5).

Roof.—Shiplap carefully laid on 2- by 6-inch rafters makes a tight, firm foundation for the prepared or tarred roofing paper. Shingles may be used if desired, as they are light and are not



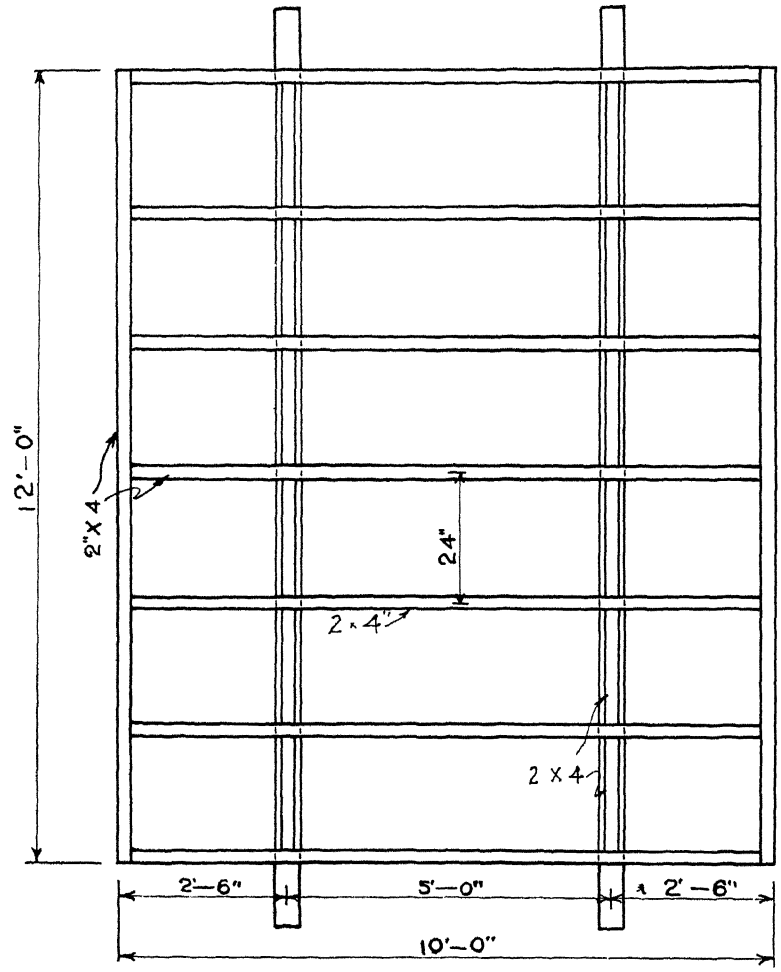
FRAME SECTION

damaged by moving the house. If 2- by 4-inch material is used for rafters the roof will eventually sag.

Ventilation.—Ventilation is provided by having an opening 2½ by 4 feet in the front; by hinged windows on the front and sides, and by a ventilator 12 inches wide just under the eves extending across the entire back. This insures good ventilation in all weather. During the summer months the side windows and back ventilator should be open; the front windows

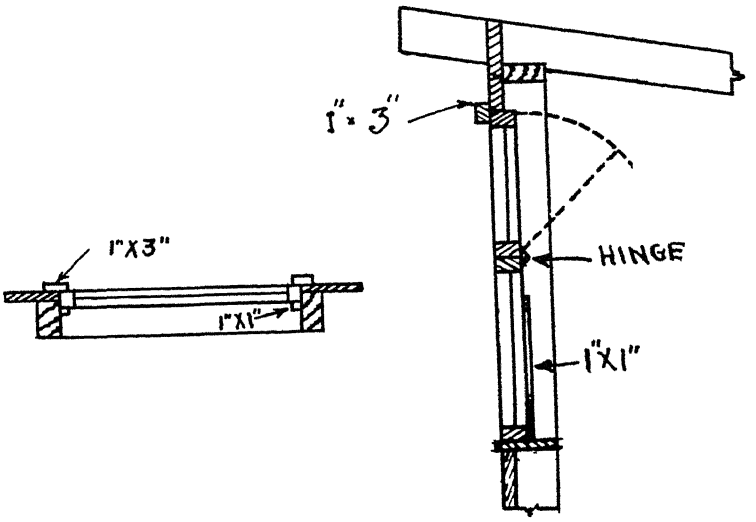
should be removed. The muslin window slides up and down on the inside of the house (see Detail of Window, page 7) and should in no case be kept closed except when it is necessary to keep the house warm.

Light.—There are two 2-sash windows in the front, and a single sash window in both sides. The top sash of the front win-

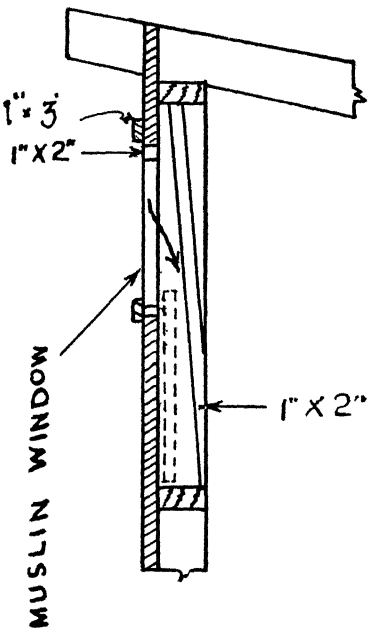


FLOOR PLAN

dows are hinged to the lower ones and open inwardly. The lower sash may then be raised and the windows removed (see Detail of Glass Window, page 7). The window on the side where door is placed should be set far enough back in the wall to prevent the



DETAIL OF GLASS WINDOW



DETAIL OF WINDOW

door from shutting out the light and breaking the glass when it is opened. The window on the other side of house is located equal distance from front and rear.

Galvanized poultry netting, 1-inch mesh, should be placed on the outside of all windows, including the muslin window, and the edges fastened down by the 1- by 3-inch batten.

No window frames are necessary; the studs can be used to form the sides of the frame, and short pieces of 2 by 4's be set in at the top and bottom.

BILL OF MATERIAL

Take this bulletin to your lumber dealer and he will give you a bill of material that will be much more satisfactory than one made by this department. If you have old lumber, make a list of it and give it to your dealer. He will know what you need to purchase.